

ROW ARRANGEMENT

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 557



ROW ARRANGEMENT

Row arrangement is a system of crop rows on planned directions, grades and lengths for erosion control and/or water management.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of this practice is to establish rows in the appropriate direction, grade, and length to provide adequate drainage, reduce erosion, control runoff water, and permit optimum use of rainfall and/or irrigation water.

Row arrangement utilizes furrows to slow runoff and allow more moisture to infiltrate the soil. Arranging rows on the contour can increase erosion if the rainfall amount exceeds the ability of the contours to control runoff. Therefore, this practice is usually planned in conjunction with other practices needed for support in the event that runoff exceeds the carrying capacity of the contours.

Local standards and specifications generally cover the alignment requirements when planned and applied with common associated practices; alignment requirements when contour farming is applied without protection from supporting practices; and established tolerances for deviation from true contour, row grade, and row length.

Row arrangement will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Row Arrangement (557) is commonly applied with conservation practices, such as Grassed Waterway (412), Underground Outlet (620), Lined Waterway or Outlet (468), Diversion (362), Contour Buffer Strips (332), and Terrace (600).

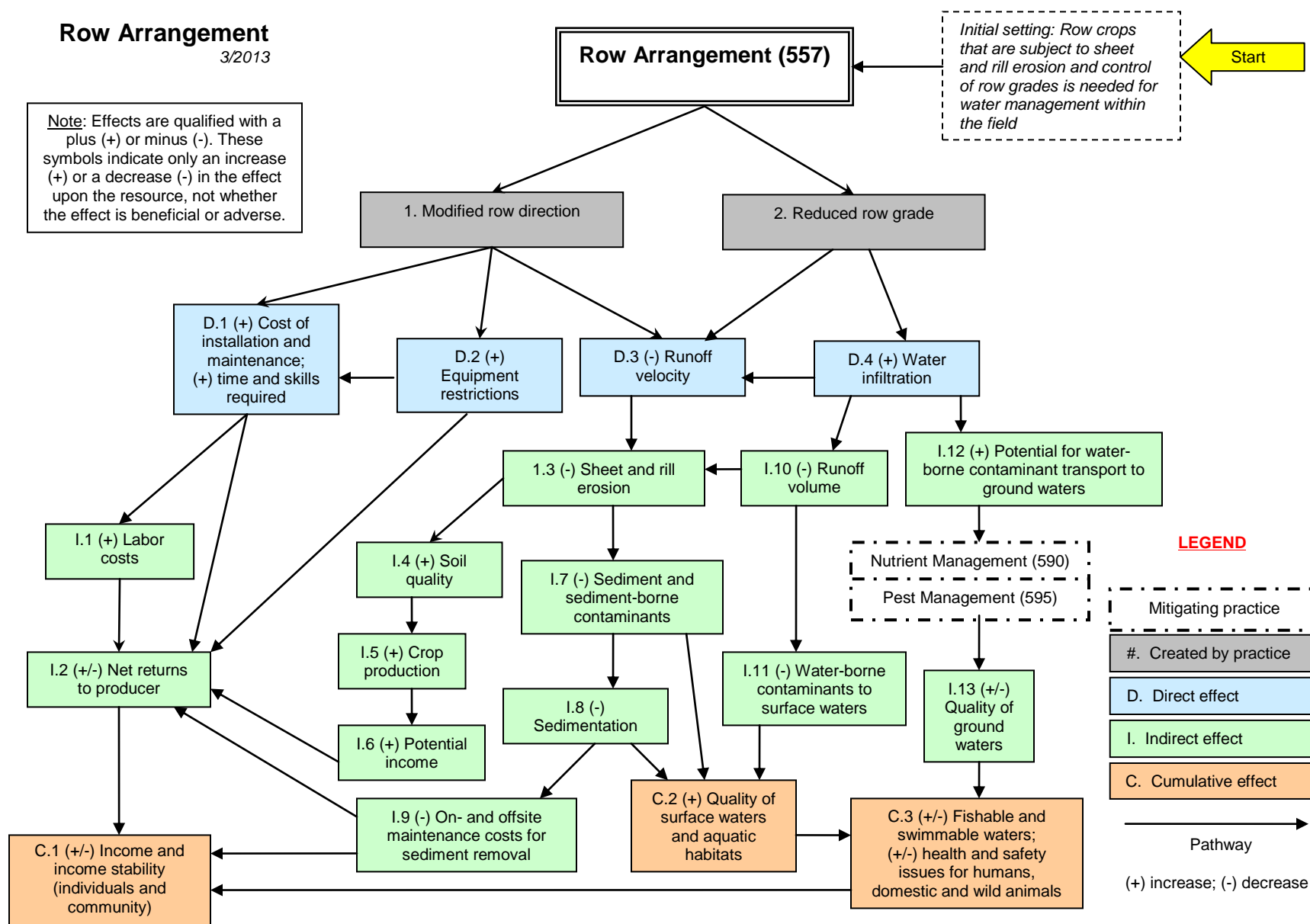
For further information, contact local NRCS Field Office.

The following page identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.

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Note: Effects are qualified with a plus (+) or minus (-). These symbols indicate only an increase (+) or a decrease (-) in the effect upon the resource, not whether the effect is beneficial or adverse.



The diagram above identifies the effects expected to occur when this practice is applied according to NRCS practice standards and specifications. These effects are subjective and somewhat dependent on variables such as climate, terrain, soil, etc. All appropriate local, State, Tribal, and Federal permits and approvals are the responsibility of the landowner and are presumed to have been obtained. All income changes are partially dependent upon market fluctuations which are independent of the conservation practices. Users are cautioned that these effects are estimates that may or may not apply to a specific site.